

tion of Sales tax and Octroi duty on fertilizers so as to make it available to the farmers at a cheaper rate; and

(b) if so, by what time the abolition of such duties will be effected?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION (SHRI SURJIT SINGH BARNALA): (a) The Government of India have been requesting various State Governments to consider abolition of Sales Tax and Octroi duty on fertilisers.

(b) The Government of Punjab, Maharashtra, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Assam, Manipur, Maghalaya, Arunachal, Jammu & Kashmir, Goa, Delhi and Chandigarh have already abolished Sales Tax on fertiliser. The State Government of West Bengal and Bihar, have either reduced the rate of Sales Tax or rationalised it. Other State Government are unable at present to lose this important source of revenue because of their own resource position.

Similarly, in case of Octroi duty, most of the States do not have any Octroi duty, others have been requested to consider the abolition thereof.

Houses for the Dependents of the retired/deceased Government employees

*420. SHRI C. VENUGOPAL;
SHRI V. S. ELANCHEZHIAN:

Will the Minister of WORKS AND HOUSING AND SUPPLY AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state:

(a) the policy that was extant for provision of Government accommodation to children of retiring/deceased Government employees,

(b) particulars of modification of the policy, if any and reasons therefor; and

(c) What new measures have been evolved to relieve hardships in such cases?

THE MINISTER OF WORKS AND HOUSING AND SUPPLY AND REHABILITATION (SHRI SIKANDAR BAKHT): (a) and (b). Dependents of those officers who were in occupation of General Pool accommodation and retired on or before 30th April 1978, are considered for *ad hoc* allotment provided they are otherwise eligible. This concession has been withdrawn in respect of officers retiring after 30th April, 1978. In case of officers in occupation of General Pool accommodation, who die while in service, their dependents are considered for *ad hoc* allotment provided they are otherwise eligible. The Staff Side of the National Council (JCM) was pressing for the withdrawal of the concession of *ad hoc* allotment to the dependents of retired officers as this had led to senior employees with 20 to 25 years of service being denied Government accommodation while employees with a few years of service get accommodation on retirement of their parents. The demand was considered reasonable and accepted.

(c) Various schemes are available to Government servants for constructing their own houses.

10+2+3 system of Education

*421. SHRI VIJAY KUMAR
MALHOTRA:
PROF. P. G. MAVALANKAR:

Will the Minister of EDUCATION, SOCIAL WELFARE AND CULTURE be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 96 on the 17th July, 1978 regarding 10+2+3 system of Education and state: